

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended.

Claims 1, 39, and 75 have been amended. Claims 20, 35 and 69-74 have been cancelled without prejudice. No new claims have been added. Therefore, claims 1-19, 21-34, 36-68 and 75 are presented for examination. The following remarks are in response to the final Office Action, mailed May 31, 2006, and the advisory action mailed thereafter.

Claim Objections

Claim 37 is objected to by the Examiner because claim 37 is a duplicate of claim 35. Claim 35 has been cancelled without prejudice. As such, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the objection.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection

Claims 1-4, 23-25 and 34-38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,636,502 of Lager, et al. (“Lager”). Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner’s characterization of Lager.

Lager discloses “[a] switching device in a mobile radio communication system which supports a GPRS-network [and is allowed] to connect a terminal station of the mobile radio communication network with one of a plurality of packet data communication networks.” (Abstract). Lager further discloses a “switching device [that] . . . contains a reception means for receiving the network indication parameter NIP indicating the predetermined packet data communication network from the first terminal station of the PLMNs.” (col. 12, lines 50-54; emphasis added)

Claim 1, as amended, in pertinent part, recites “a simplified protocol structure

eliminating unnecessary intermediate protocols layers.” The Examiner has indicated on pages 20 and 21 of the outstanding Office action that “[s]ince one protocol exists between GPRS-MS and PLMN-SW, and another protocol between PLMN-SW and PDN, a simplified protocol is performed between the devices.” (Office Action, mailed 05-23-06, pages 20-21) In addition, the Examiner indicated that “a simplified protocol structure has not been defined within the claims.” Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly define the meaning of a simplified protocol structure as illustrated on, at least, page 13 and Figure 4 of the Specification.

Lager does not teach or reasonably suggest “a simplified protocol structure eliminating unnecessary intermediate protocols layers” as recited by claim 1 (emphasis added). Accordingly, for at least this reason, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 and its dependent claims.

Various dependent claims have been rejected based on the combination of one or more of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0053444 Swartz, et al. (Swartz”), U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0007625 of Pines., et al. (Pines”), and U.S. Patent No. 6,418,324 of Doviak (“Doviak”) with Lager. However, none of these references teach or reasonably suggest “a simplified protocol structure eliminating unnecessary intermediate protocols layers” as recited by claim 1 (emphasis added). Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of these dependent claims.

Claims 39-48, 50-52, 54, 57-68 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as being unpatentable over Lager in view of Pines and U.S. Patent No. 6,775,549 of Benveniste, et al. (“Benveniste”). Claim 39 has also been amended to expressly recite the element of “a simplified protocol structure eliminating unnecessary intermediate protocols layers”. Lager, Pines, and Benveniste, neither individually nor when combined in any

combination, teach or reasonably suggest “a simplified protocol structure eliminating unnecessary intermediate protocols layers” as recited by claim 39 (emphasis added).

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of claim 39 and its dependent claims.

Claims 49 and 53 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as being unpatentable over Lager, Pines and Benveniste as applied to claim 39, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,333,919 of Gaffney, et al. (“Gaffney”). Lager, Pines and Benveniste and Gaffney, neither individually nor when combined in any combination, teach or reasonably suggest “a simplified protocol structure eliminating unnecessary intermediate protocols layers” as recited by claim 39 (emphasis added). Claims 49 and 53 depend from claim 39 and thus include all the limitations of claim 39. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of claim 49 and 53.

Conclusion

In light of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of the claims is hereby earnestly requested.

Invitation for a Telephone Interview

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Request for an Extension of Time

Applicant respectfully petitions for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a) for such an extension.

Charge our Deposit Account

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

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Aslam A. Jaffery
Reg. No. 51,841

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
7th Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025-1030
(303) 740-1980